GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4207 ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009 IRREGULARITIES IN CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES AND IGNOU Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi;Jeyadural Shri S. R.;Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases received against Vice Chancellors and other officers of Central Universities and Vice Chancellors of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for violation of norms and other irregularities and malpractices during the last three years, university-wise, year-wise;
- (b) the details of cases against Vice Chancellors and other officers of Central Universities which have been decided;
- (c) the details of action taken under the concerned Acts;
- (d) the details of cases pending for settlement; and
- (e) the steps the Government proposes to take to ensure transparency and accountability?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

- (a) to (d): While the Central Universities, including IGNOU, are statutory autonomous bodies established and incorporated under Acts of Parliament and the Central Government has no direct control over their day-to-day functioning, the President of India, in the capacity as the Visitor of these Universities, has the right to cause a ninquiry to be made in respect of any matterconnected with the administration or finances of a University. The University Grants Commission (UGC), which is mandated to maintain standards of higher education in the country and to allocate and disburse grants to the Central Universities, may also look into the allegations/ complaints against the Central Universities. During the last three years, the Visitor /UGC has constituted Fact Finding Committees to look into the allegations/ complaints relating, inter-alia, to financial mismanagement, misappropriation of funds, irregularities in appointments, violation of Statutes and Ordinances, personal charges against Statutory Officers, etc. against the Vice-Chancellor, and other officials of Nagaland University, Aligarh Muslim University and Visva Bharati. Beside, a complaint against the Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU received through the Central Vigilance Commission, is under examination in the Ministry.
- (e) The Central Universities are governed by their respective Acts, which provide for submission of annual reports and the audited accounts of the Universities before both Houses of Parliament. This provision, along with the built-in mechanism of checks and balances in the system, ensures transparency and accountability in the functioning of the Universities.